

data is smaller than the first reference value, the rate of the smoothing of the chromaticity data is made greater than the rate of the smoothing of the luminosity data.

4. The image processing method as defined in claim 2, wherein:

a second reference value is specified as to a degree of the variation of the luminosity data so that the second reference value is smaller than the first reference value; and

in image areas where the variation of the luminosity data is larger than the second reference value, the luminosity data is not subjected to the smoothing.

5. The image processing method as defined in claim 3, wherein:

a second reference value is specified as to a degree of the variation of the luminosity data so that the second reference value is smaller than the first reference value; and

in image areas where the variation of the luminosity data is larger than the second reference value, the luminosity data is not subjected to the smoothing.

6. The image processing method as defined in claim 2,

wherein

in image areas where the variation of the luminosity data is larger than the first reference value, the luminosity data is not subjected to the smoothing and the chromaticity data is not subjected to the smoothing.

7. The image processing method as defined in claim 3, wherein

in image areas where the variation of the luminosity data is larger than the first reference value, the luminosity data is not subjected to the smoothing and the chromaticity data is not subjected to the smoothing.

8. The image processing method as defined in claim 1, wherein

the rate of the smoothing of the chromaticity data and the rate of the smoothing of the luminosity data are changed according to a distribution parameter of the luminosity data.

9. An image processing device, comprising:

a data separator section for separating image data into luminosity data and chromaticity data;

a chromaticity noise removing section for smoothing the chromaticity data;

a luminosity noise removing section for smoothing the luminosity data; and

a smoothing rate computing section for computing a variation of the luminosity data in two-dimensional coordinate space and computing, for each unit area of an image, a rate of the smoothing of the chromaticity data and a rate of the smoothing of the luminosity data according to the variation as outputs to the chromaticity noise removing section and the luminosity noise removing section respectively.

10. The image processing device as defined in claim 9, wherein

the smoothing rate computing section compares the variation of the luminosity data with a first reference value specified as to a degree of the variation of the luminosity data, and in image areas where the variation of the luminosity data is smaller than the first reference value, computes the rates given by such equations that the rate of the smoothing of the chromaticity data becomes larger than the rate of the smoothing of the luminosity data.

11. The image processing device as defined in claim 10, wherein

the smoothing rate computing section compares the variation of the luminosity data with a second reference value specified as to a degree of the variation of the luminosity data so that the second reference value is smaller than the first reference value, and in image areas where the variation of the luminosity data is larger than the second reference value, computes the rates given by such equations that the luminosity data is not subjected to the smoothing.

12. The image processing device as defined in claim 10, wherein

in image areas where the variation of the luminosity data is larger than the first reference value, the smoothing rate computing section computes the rates given by such equations that the luminosity data is not subjected to the smoothing and the chromaticity data is not subjected to the smoothing.

13. The image processing device as defined in claim 10, wherein

the smoothing rate computing section includes a reference specification section for assigning variable values to the reference values depending on an external input.

14. A computer-executable image processing program, performing a process of:

separating image data into luminosity data and chromaticity data; and

changing a rate of smoothing of the chromaticity data and a rate of smoothing of the luminosity data according to a variation of the luminosity data in two-dimensional coordinate space.

15. The image processing program as defined in claim 14, wherein:

a first reference value is specified as to a degree of the variation of the luminosity data; and

in image areas where the variation of the luminosity data is smaller than the first reference value, the chromaticity data is subjected to the smoothing first and, if necessary, the luminosity data is subjected to the smoothing thereafter.

16. The image processing program as defined in claim 14, wherein:

a first reference value is specified as to a degree of the variation of the luminosity data; and

in image areas where the variation of the luminosity data is smaller than the first reference value, the rate

of the smoothing of the chromaticity data is made greater than the rate of the smoothing of the luminosity data.

17. The image processing program as defined in claim 15, wherein:

a second reference value is specified as to a degree of the variation of the luminosity data so that the second reference value is smaller than the first reference value; and

in image areas where the variation of the luminosity data is larger than the second reference value, the luminosity data is not subjected to the smoothing.

18. The image processing program as defined in claim 16, wherein:

a second reference value is specified as to a degree of the variation of the luminosity data so that the second reference value is smaller than the first reference value; and

in image areas where the variation of the luminosity data is larger than the second reference value, the luminosity data is not subjected to the smoothing.

19. The image processing program as defined in claim 15, wherein

in image areas where the variation of the luminosity data is larger than the first reference value, the luminosity data is not subjected to the smoothing and the chromaticity data is not subjected to the smoothing.

20. The image processing program as defined in claim 16, wherein

in image areas where the variation of the luminosity data is larger than the first reference value, the luminosity data is not subjected to the smoothing and the chromaticity data is not subjected to the smoothing.

21. The image processing program as defined in claim 14, wherein

the rate of the smoothing of the chromaticity data and the rate of the smoothing of the luminosity data are changed according to a distribution parameter of the luminosity data.

22. A computer-readable recording medium, for recording an image processing program performing a process of:

separating image data into luminosity data and chromaticity data; and

changing a rate of smoothing of the chromaticity data and a rate of smoothing of the luminosity data

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE	ZIP
Mr. J. H. Smith	123 Main St.	Springfield	Ill.	62760
Mr. R. L. Jones	456 Oak Ave.	Chicago	Ill.	60601
Mr. T. K. White	789 Elm St.	Peoria	Ill.	61602
Mr. M. N. Brown	101 Maple Dr.	Rockford	Ill.	61101
Mr. P. Q. Green	202 Pine Ln.	Decatur	Ill.	62521
Mr. S. R. Black	303 Cedar St.	Normal	Ill.	62450
Mr. V. W. Gray	404 Birch Ave.	Urbana	Ill.	61502
Mr. X. Y. Blue	505 Walnut St.	Macomb	Ill.	61455
Mr. Z. A. Red	606 Spruce Dr.	Streator	Ill.	61364
Mr. B. C. Purple	707 Ash Ln.	Alton	Ill.	61810
Mr. D. E. Yellow	808 Hickory St.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. F. G. Pink	909 Willow Ave.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. H. I. Orange	1010 Cherry Dr.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. J. K. Green	1111 Elm St.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. L. M. Blue	1212 Maple Ave.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. N. O. Red	1313 Pine Ln.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. P. Q. Purple	1414 Cedar St.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. R. S. Yellow	1515 Birch Ave.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. T. U. Pink	1616 Walnut St.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. V. W. Orange	1717 Spruce Dr.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. X. Y. Green	1818 Ash Ln.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. Z. A. Blue	1919 Hickory St.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. B. C. Red	2020 Willow Ave.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. D. E. Purple	2121 Cherry Dr.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. F. G. Yellow	2222 Elm St.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. H. I. Blue	2323 Maple Ave.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. J. K. Red	2424 Pine Ln.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. L. M. Purple	2525 Cedar St.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. N. O. Yellow	2626 Birch Ave.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. P. Q. Pink	2727 Walnut St.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. R. S. Orange	2828 Spruce Dr.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. T. U. Green	2929 Ash Ln.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. V. W. Blue	3030 Hickory St.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. X. Y. Red	3131 Willow Ave.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. Z. A. Purple	3232 Cherry Dr.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. B. C. Yellow	3333 Elm St.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. D. E. Pink	3434 Maple Ave.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. F. G. Orange	3535 Pine Ln.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. H. I. Green	3636 Cedar St.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. J. K. Blue	3737 Birch Ave.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. L. M. Red	3838 Walnut St.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. N. O. Purple	3939 Spruce Dr.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. P. Q. Yellow	4040 Ash Ln.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. R. S. Pink	4141 Hickory St.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. T. U. Orange	4242 Willow Ave.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. V. W. Green	4343 Cherry Dr.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. X. Y. Blue	4444 Elm St.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. Z. A. Red	4545 Maple Ave.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. B. C. Purple	4646 Pine Ln.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. D. E. Yellow	4747 Cedar St.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. F. G. Pink	4848 Birch Ave.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. H. I. Orange	4949 Walnut St.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. J. K. Green	5050 Spruce Dr.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. L. M. Blue	5151 Ash Ln.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. N. O. Red	5252 Hickory St.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. P. Q. Purple	5353 Willow Ave.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. R. S. Yellow	5454 Cherry Dr.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. T. U. Pink	5555 Elm St.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. V. W. Orange	5656 Maple Ave.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. X. Y. Green	5757 Pine Ln.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. Z. A. Blue	5858 Cedar St.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. B. C. Red	5959 Birch Ave.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. D. E. Purple	6060 Walnut St.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. F. G. Yellow	6161 Spruce Dr.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. H. I. Pink	6262 Ash Ln.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. J. K. Orange	6363 Hickory St.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. L. M. Green	6464 Willow Ave.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. N. O. Blue	6565 Cherry Dr.	East Alton	Ill.	61821
Mr. P. Q. Red	6666 Elm St.	East Alton		